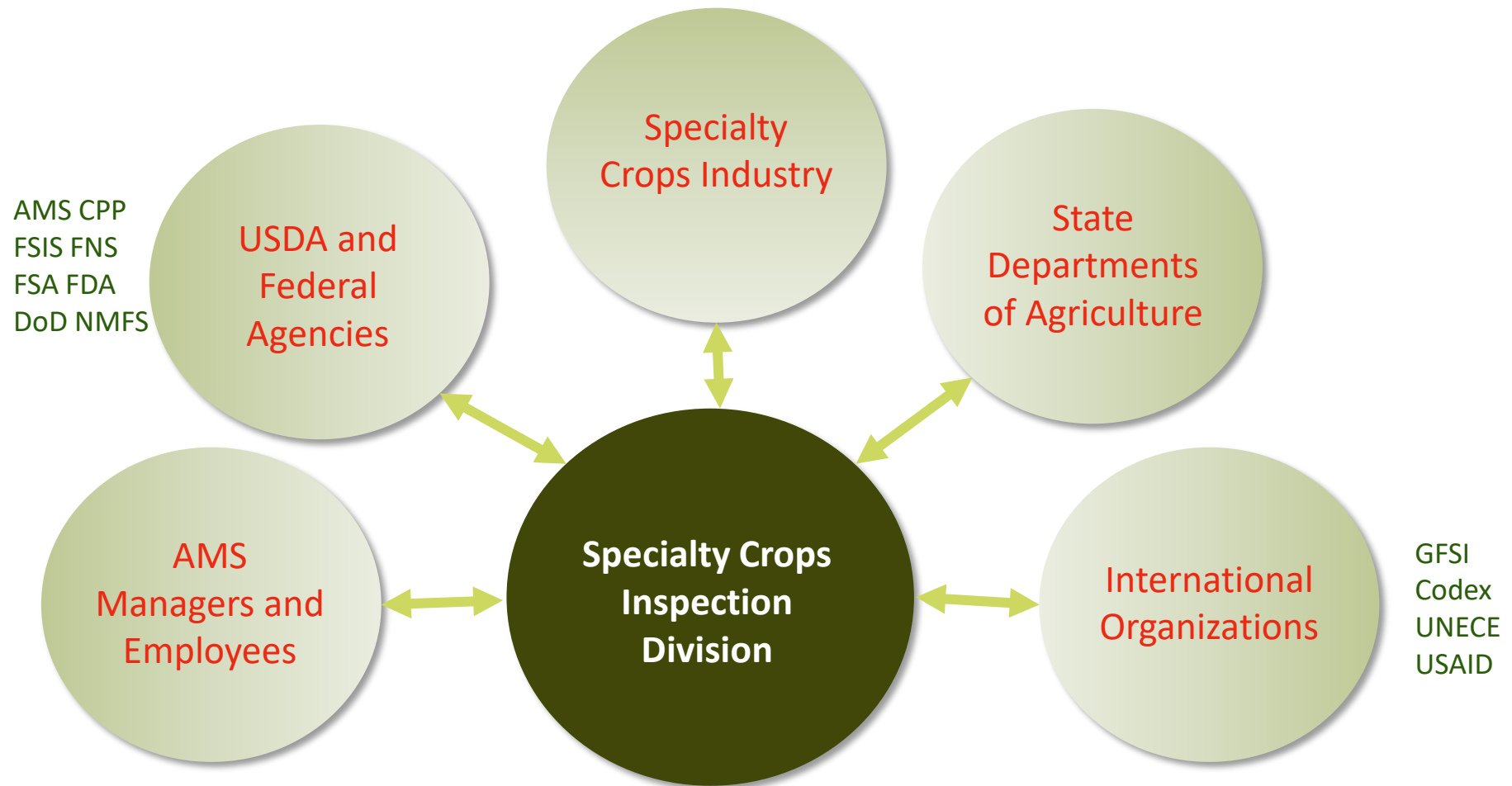


# Specialty Crops Inspection Division

# Programs and Services

- SCI facilitates the efficient, fair marketing of America's fresh, frozen, and processed fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops by providing:
  - Grading, inspection, and certification services
  - Voluntary, audit-based services to verify good agricultural and manufacturing practices, HACCP, traceability, food defense, and export certification
  - U.S. grade standards and related guidance, and Commercial Item Descriptions for all commodities
- Services are voluntary (*except* when mandated by Federal marketing orders, or school lunch and other feeding programs)
- Services provided on a user-fee basis to anyone with a financial interest in product load

# Delivering to Stakeholders



# SCI Field Locations



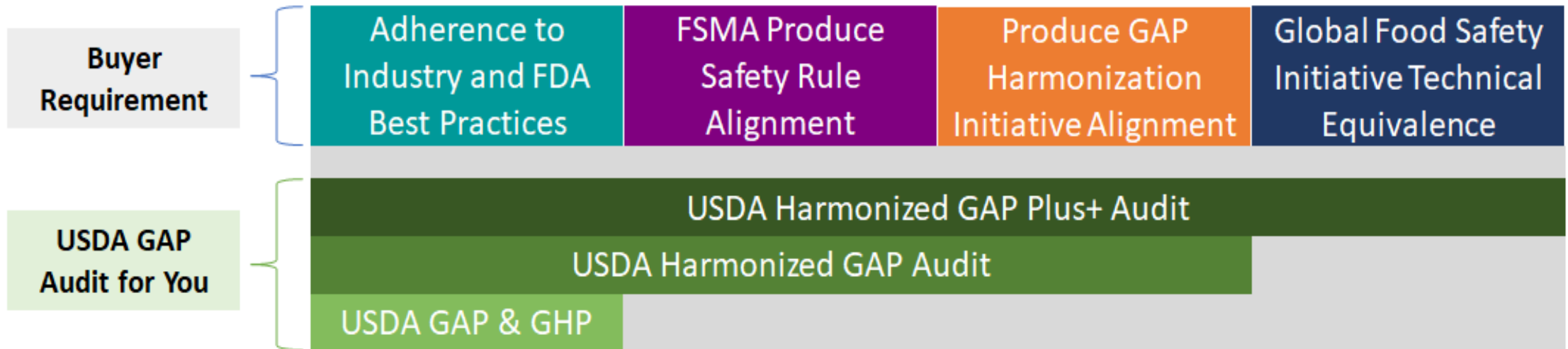
# Inspection Services

- Inspect fresh and processed fruits, vegetables, nuts, and specialty crops products
- Certify class, quality, quantity, and condition of product upon shipping or receipt in interstate commerce
- Customers choose inspection type
  - U.S. grade standards or contract terms
  - Full inspection (quality and condition)
  - Condition only
  - Weight or count only
  - Temperature only
  - Custom certifications

**We support an efficient marketing system that quickly moves wholesome, affordable agricultural products from farm to consumer**

# USDA GAP Audit Services

## Meeting Buyers' Needs



# USDA GAP Audit Services

## Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit

- Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) technically equivalent
  - Reapplying for continued technical equivalency (March 2021)
- Produce Safety Rule alignment
- Produce GAP Harmonization Initiative
- Food and Drug Administration recommendations and industry-recognized food safety practices



# USDA GAP Audit Services

## Harmonized GAP Audit

- Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) technical standards
- Produce Safety Rule alignment
- Produce GAP Harmonization Initiative
- Food and Drug Administration recommendations and industry-recognized food safety practices





# Audit Program Export Certifications

- Pre-Export Check Program for almonds destined for the European Union
- Aflatoxin control measures for peanuts destined for the European Union
- European Union Certification Program for Sprouts and Seeds for Sprouts
- Pistachio Export Aflatoxin Reporting (PEAR) Program



# GAP Buyer Acceptance Project

- AMS, Michigan State University (MSU), and the Wallace Center at Winrock International collaborating to increase buyer acceptance of USDA GAP audits
- MSU survey of buyers, producers, and audit providers to determine current industry acceptance of USDA audits
- Pilot GAP program with national retailers and key buyers
- Working with Costco to assess alignment of USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ audit with their supplier food safety requirements

# Standardization Programs

- Develop and maintain 300+ U.S. standards for grades
  - Standards define quality and condition factors for fresh and processed fruits, vegetables, nuts, and other specialty crop products
- Develop and maintain 188 Commercial Item Descriptions (CID) for products in all commodity areas
  - CIDs are official U.S. Government procurement documents that describe the most important characteristics of a commercial product
  - Used by buyers to specify the product they want to purchase

# SCION

- Specialty Crops Integrated Operating Network
- New automated business platform to support Specialty Crops Inspection Division grading, inspection, and audit business processes
- Comprised of three distinct applications for meet specific end-user needs
  - Applicant Portal
  - SCION Console
  - Inspector/Auditor App

One-stop-shop for SCI applicants to request services and access key information about their business.



# Specialty Crops Inspection Division